(c) whether Government propose to take steps against the culprits involved in the racket?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir. Imputation that the fake stamp papers could be originating from the India Security Press, Nasik, is not correct.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Fiscal deficit

1711. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the fiscal deficit for the current financial year *vis-a-vis* 2000-2001, 1999-2000 and 1998-99;

(b) the revenue deficit during the above period;

(c) the reasons for high fiscal deficit at present;

(d) whether non-tax revenue receipts have registered a revenue growth;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the corrective steps proposed by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL); (a) and (b) The fiscal deficit

and revenue deficit of the Central Government during 1998-99 to 2001-02 are as follows:

(Rs. crore)

	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-02 (RE)
Fiscal deficit	89560	104716	118816	131721
Revenue deficit	66795	67596	85234	91733

NOTE: Fiscal deficit for 1998-99 is exclusive of transfer of States' share of small savings collections.

(c) Inadequate fiscal adjustment has remained the most intractable problem owing to a combination of factors which among others include increasing interest payments, subsidies etc.

(d) to (f) Non-tax revenue receipts showed an increase of 26.1 per cent in 2001-02 (RE) compared with 4.7 per cent in 2000-01. The endeavour of the Government is to reduce the fiscal deficit through a combination of measures to enhance tax revenue and raise non-tax revenue through appropriate changes in user charges wherever possible and contain non-plan revenue expenditure.

Private insurance operators

1712. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private insurance operators who have been given permission to operate in the country and those foreign firms who have entered the fray;

(b) the number of applications presently pending with Government for clearance;

(c) the guidelines presently followed clearing the cases; and

(d) in what manner the performance of these operators are